

**Donald Faulk
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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Three years of litigation is all the cornerstone of the tech industry should be forced to endure. Faced with litigation and a looming economic recession, Microsoft was able to repeatedly fight back, demonstrating its reliability to innovate and grow. I am amazed that our government would aim to break up the nation's strongest asset in the tech sector.

Although I am pleased that Microsoft will not be broken up, the terms of the settlement, which, among other points, forces them to disclose interfaces internal to Windows operating system products and grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows, are too harsh and violate Microsoft's intellectual property rights.

While flawed, the settlement still represents the best way out of further litigation. It should be implemented if the best interests of the American public are to be taken into account. Please use your influence to affect positive change. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Donald Faulk